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CHRB ADVISORY

FEBRUARY 28, 2020

CLARIFICATION ON RULE CHANGES

The California Horse Racing Board announced late Thursday that changes to Rules 1843.5 (Medications, Drugs and Other Substances Permitted After Entry in a Race) and 1844 (Medication) became effective February 26. This advisory is intended to clarify that horses that had already been entered in races will not be affected by these rule changes. Enforcement of these rules will begin with entries taken March 1. While the summary for the changes to Rule 1843.5 stressed the "hay, oats and water" nature of the rule change, the text of the rule (attached) clearly states exceptions, including injectable vitamins and the bleeding medication furosemide (Lasix) that still are permitted after entry.

These changes were adopted on an emergency basis at the January 22 Board meeting pending adoption of permanent regulations at the February 20 Board meeting. The texts of these emergency and permanent regulations were posted on the CHRB website and contained in meeting packages throughout the months-long regulatory processes. The CHRB received no communications regarding 1843.5 during the public notice periods for both the emergency and permanent rules, and there were no comments during public hearings prior to approvals.